DEC 6 1918

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

Vol. X., No. 501.] FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1918. [Price 2d.
Registered as a Newspaper

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Notes and News.

The King's Thanks to Women.

The King's marked inclusion of women in his thanks to the Navy, the Army, and the Royal Air Force, is an historic event. Never before have a monarch's thanks to his armies in the hour of victory been addressed to women as well as men. These fighting Forces of ours that have so triumphantly upheld the cause of civilisation are different from any Forces that have ever fought before; and one of the differences is that they have women as their Auxiliaries, and as an essential part of their organisation. The King expressed this, and in doing so, interpreted the thoughts of his people.

Demobilisation.

Meantime we wonder anxiously whether the King is the only person in authority who remembers the women. We await with deep and painful interest some further and more definite schemes from the Government on the subject of Industrial Organisation during the demobilization period. So far, there is nothing to reassure the millions of women workers who are naturally suffering from agonising anxiety as to their future position. The Ministry of Munitions has appointed a Demobilisation Board which does not include a single woman member. We regard this as an exceedingly grave omission; if it is a symptom of the way in which the Government is going to treat the women workers' problem, it is ominous. We anxiously await further announcements.

Government Clerks.

As we pointed out last week, the problem of the future of unskilled—and even of skilled—women clerks is one which it is necessary to face now. Some Government offices will probably be closed down almost at once; others will remain at part strength, some perhaps at full strength for some years to come. It is therefore imperative that the departments should be urged to take stock of their staffs and of what proportion of them they are likely to want to keep. It is essential then that advisory committees be set up—probably in connection with Employment Exchanges (but which could have rotas sitting in Government Departments)—to give advice and information suited to each individual as to what form her future career should take. Training schemes should be started *at once* for all professions—such as the public health service, teaching, institutional housekeeping, foreign correspondents, &c., which are most likely to be in need of new workers. Only by such methods can the Government ensure against serious unemployment—a state of things which would be as harmful to the *morale* of those girl clerks who regard their pay as "pin-money" as to the welfare of those dependent upon it for their livelihood.

Women M.P.'s.

The announcement that the General Election is to take place almost immediately will quicken the interest which is already very widespread about the candidatures of women for Parliament. The names of several women who are standing have already been announced, but many more women's candidatures are in contemplation, and we understand that the party organisations are all very busy in the matter. We hope to have some important announcements to make on this subject next week. It is quite obvious that there can be no satisfactory reconstruction without a full representation of women's views on the subject, and women's organisations realise that it is through women M.P.s. that these views will now find their chief expression.

Women Doctors and the Army.

On November 6th, in the House of Commons, Sir Philip Magnus asked if, having regard to the fact that women doctors serving in Military Hospitals discharged similar duties and received the same pay as men doctors, and are entitled to wear the R.A.M.C. badge, the Under Secretary of State for War would take steps to rectify the anomaly of their being refused even honorary commissions or permission to wear badges of rank which would be helpful to them in maintaining discipline; and if he could arrange that they should obtain equivalent relief from income-tax as is granted to men doctors under the Service Rate. Mr. Macpherson said he had been into the question thoroughly and found that it was legally impossible to grant commissions in the Army to women: to do so would involve legislation. On the evening of the same day Mr. Acland raised the question again. There being, however, less than forty members present, the House adjourned before Mr. Acland had finished his speech. As we remarked in our leader last week, women are not prepared to stand this kind of anomaly any longer.

Equal Pay for Textile Workers.

Among the textile workers, especially the women, there is a good deal of trouble and unrest on the question of the out-of-work allowance. The Cotton Control Board has fixed an allowance for male weavers at 30s. a week, and for female weavers at 18s. a week. Although it may be true to say that in other industries women, in the main, do the more unskilled work there is no such sex distinction in the textile industry. This is not a diluted industry. Before the war women were doing the same skilled work as men and receiving the same wages. In some processes they earned even higher wages than the men. In these circumstances it is, to say the least, unwise to differentiate between the out-of-work rates of the men and women. Both the men and women in the industry are protesting vehemently against this treatment, and we hope that the Government will take immediate steps to meet the women's just and reasonable demand.

The Scottish Y.W.C.A.

The Scottish Y.W.C.A. is organising a special appeal for funds to carry on the work of providing Huts, Clubs, &c., for the women and girls engaged in war work. November 21st to November 28th is to be set aside as "Women's Week" throughout England, Scotland and America, and during this week the special appeal is to be made. It is obvious to all that much of the comfort and happiness, and thereby, much of the efficiency of women war workers is due to the relaxation and recreation provided by Huts, and Clubs, where their spare time can be, at the lowest estimate harmlessly—at the highest, profitably—spent.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE N.U.W.S.S.

When the cannon boomed out at 11 o'clock on the morning of November 11th, all London, and presently all England and all the world knew that the Armistice had been signed, that Germany had surrendered, and that Great Britain and her Allies had secured Peace: a Peace, as we all hope and believe, just and therefore lasting.

Deep thankfulness and deep gratitude fill all our hearts. Gratitude first of all to the millions of men who have fought for us; to the hundreds of thousands who have laid down their lives that we might be free. Joy unspeakable fills us that when the call for self-sacrifice came there was such a noble response: thankfulness to our country as a whole for the part she has played: that again it may be said of her

"For dearly must we prize thee: we who find
In thee a bulwark for the cause of men."

Gratitude should also be given, and given ungrudgingly, to the Statesmen who have guided the ship of State safely into harbour during the storms and perils of four and a quarter years of exultations and agonies. Right glad must we be that these Statesmen belong to no single party and that, whether Conservative, Liberal or Labour, they have successfully broken through the old narrow party traditions and have worked together with but one end in view, the victory of the cause of freedom and self-government, carrying with it the victory of their country.

Millicent Garrett Fawcett.

THE GREAT PEACE.

At the time of writing it is impossible to think of anything except that we stand on the brink of what we hope will be the greatest Peace the world has ever known. Lord Grey told us a few weeks ago that the reason why universal peace had never been possible in the past, was that people had not really wanted it badly enough. He added, in those unemphatic words of his that carry so much conviction, that he believed the people who had lived through the last four years *did* want it, and that the time for it was come. When the news of the signing of the Armistice was given on Monday by the same maroons that have warned London of air raids, the city which has accepted danger and sorrow and the news of victory in silence broke into a great murmur of joy. No one who was in the streets that day can ever forget the light in the eyes of the people, nor the immense sensation of release that filled the air. No one who saw it can doubt that the British people at least long for peace.

And if to us the thought of it is like water in a thirsty land, there must be others who want it even more. Many of our Allies have suffered an agony which we can hardly realise, and the enemy peoples whose rulers are responsible for the great wrong, are now passing through the bitterness of death. It does therefore seem probable that humanity has reached a point at which it wants peace "badly enough" to get it. But though it cannot be had without the desire, a blind desire is not enough. It is a long way from the signing of the Armistice to the building up of a peaceful world. As much effort, though not as much suffering will be needed for the establishment of the League of Nations as was required for the overthrow of German military power. We believe that it can only be accomplished if in each country *all* the people take at least as active and whole-hearted a part in it as they have taken in the war. Women can obviously take a greater share; in war they have proved themselves auxiliaries without whom the men who were fighting could not have carried on; in the labours of peace they ought to be able to take an equal share with the men. It is true that at first they will not have equal opportunities, and that a considerable amount of energy will still have to be spent in gaining these; but it is a matter for thankfulness that in this country, at least, and in nearly all British lands a large number of women have won the political rights which mean more now than they ever did before. It may turn out to be so in other lands too. American women are very near enfranchisement, and President Wilson has plainly said that he does not believe the aims for which America entered the war can be accomplished unless the women are first given votes. It is possible that the revolution in Germany will lead to universal suffrage for German women as well as for German men. Almost certainly the smaller nations of Eastern Europe whose women have suffered so bitterly, will enfranchise them. We may hope, therefore, that all over the world women will have a say in the establishment of peace conditions, and the building up of a new international life in which war is impossible. But anyway British women will have a say; and we look to them to be a fresh bulwark to freedom and to justice.

This is a great moment in which to take up our citizenship. We are called on to think as we never thought before, to work as we never worked before, to seek peace, and ensue it, to forget our own wrongs and care for those of other people, "to be as just to those to whom we are not inclined to be just as to those to whom we want to be just," to strive, and suffer and live for the new life of the world. In fact to be worthy of our Country and of our Immortal Dead. Thus only shall we win the Peace.

Some Notes on Local Government.

Urban and Rural District Councils.

As the Parish Meeting is the local body for settling the affairs of the small village with under three hundred inhabitants, and the Parish Council governs the larger village, or in some cases a group of small ones, so the Rural District Council in country areas and Urban District Councils for towns manage and control matters affecting the health and convenience of the communities under their care. There is one striking difference between an Urban and a Rural District Council, two bodies which in other respects fulfil almost the same duties, and that is in connection with the administration of the Poor Law. Members who are elected to the Rural District Council become by the same election Poor Law Guardians, and represent each his or her own parish on the Board of Guardians for the Union; though the Rural District Council and the Board of Guardians are quite different bodies. (A Union is a number of small parishes, or one large and populous one, under any particular Board of Guardians.)

Urban District Councillors, on the other hand, have nothing to do with the administration of the Poor Law, the Guardians having to be elected separately. District Councils, both Urban and Rural, deal mainly with the public health in their area; and are also responsible for the maintenance of roads and footpaths. If they fail to carry out their duties in these respects the County Council may interfere, and may even make the necessary improvements and charge the neglectful Urban or Rural Council with the costs incurred.

All matters connected with the public health come under the management of District Councils, who must attend to the water supply, sewerage, collection of refuse, housing, prevention of the spread of infectious diseases, inspection of slaughter houses, factories and food, the disposal of the dead, the provision and inspection of common lodging houses, hospitals (for infectious cases), and public baths. They also administer the Midwives Act, and the Infant Life Protection Act, provide public libraries, and keep up a fire brigade. They are the authorities within their area for administering the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1909, and it is they who will be called upon to carry out the new housing schemes now in contemplation. It must be obvious from the above rather sketchy notes how all-important it is to have at least some women serving

on these bodies. Imagine the absurdity, for instance, of a Council consisting entirely of men supervising midwives, of whom, until their election, they had probably never even heard. Imagine their having sole governance over public wash-houses and lavatories, and lodging-houses for women; and being responsible for the protection of infants, when not a man among them has the least idea how much milk an infant should be given at one time. We heard of an instance where a Board of Guardians consisting of hoary-headed and entirely well-meaning District Councillors protested against the "unreasonable" request of a woman who was nursing her baby that she should have access to it during the day as well as night.

Now that the restrictions against women serving on these bodies have been removed, it is surely hardly fair for us to leave such important public duties any longer chiefly to men.

But it is, of course, in connection with housing that the functions and powers of Town and Rural Councils can so profoundly affect the health and happiness of the community.

Consider only the question of the water supply: they are bound to see that every house in their district is properly supplied wth water. It is difficult to know how the mind of the average Councillor interprets the words "properly supplied"; but the lack of water in the homes of the poor constitutes one of the worst scandals of the day.

In rural districts scarcely a cottage has water laid on, and it is a common thing to see a woman with one baby on her arm and another soon to be born winding water up from a well, or carrying it from the village pump, perhaps across a field or up a steep hill to her cottage. In towns, literally tens of thousands of houses have no provision whatever for washing and cleansing purposes other than a tap in the yard, or even sometimes up the next entry in another court or yard—one tap serving any number of from three to fourteen houses. Thus the aged and the sick, the delicate mother recently confined, alike with the well and strong, have to go out in all weathers to obtain every drop of water necessary for drinking, cooking, bathing, cleaning and washing purposes. It is heroic to keep a house and family of children clean and nice under such circumstances; and it adds enormously to the poor health and physical and nervous strain of the over-driven mother. No wonder the Interim Report of the Women's Housing Sub-Committee under the Ministry of Reconstruction makes such a special point of this matter.

There should be a tap and a sink, and a bathroom, in every house or cottage that is built, however low the rent; they should be considered as essential as a fireplace or stairs. The fact that when the man returns from work he has no means of removing soot or coal-dust or mud from his person other than by washing in a small bowl, which he probably uses in the kitchen in the presence of his family to save carrying the water upstairs to a bedroom of which the floor-space is often entirely occupied with beds; the fact that the mother has nowhere to bathe her children but in the crowded kitchen-living room, and that adolescent boys and girls in addition to having, only too often, to share the same bedrooms must also perform their scanty ablutions before one another—these facts go far to undermine the physical and moral health of the nation. They are cruel and degrading conditions, and they deprive our working-class youths and maidens of that sensitiveness and modesty, that delicacy and refinement of feeling which should be their greatest safeguard against moral recklessness and indifference in later years. The wonder is not that the young people of our towns and villages are causing such grave anxiety to all who are concerned for the health and purity of the nation, but that housed as they are, sleeping and washing as they do and must, they should be as moral and self-respecting as the greater number of them are. Let the women who have votes, and who are eligible for election to Local Government bodies realise the great responsibility that rests upon us of bringing our womanly and motherly instincts and understanding to help men to make life more beautiful and dignified for all our people everywhere.

CAROL RING.

The End of the War.

In August, 1914, there were many of us who counted all rejoicing at an end for the period of our lives here; we could believe, although our own hearts were rent with personal pain and with a deep though impersonal grief for the world, that others might rejoice at some far-off day; we hoped and we trusted that the young among us might reap in joy what we and those far dearer to us than ourselves had sown in tears.

That day is upon us. And surely it is fitting that women should review and count over their reasons for joy.

First (and those who have agonised most deeply will be with us here) we count as a matter for eternal thanksgiving the superhuman courage of our men—sailors and soldiers and airmen, medical men and chaplains; and we couple with our men our women. Wives, mothers, brides, and daughters who waited and watched and prayed at home, and our women who have stood, if not shoulder to shoulder, yet side by side, with our fighting forces. The war which was thrust upon us was a war against the well-being of Humanity, and the human race is made up of women and men. Our first reason for rejoicing is the super-human courage—the God-given courage—of men and women, which has become manifest during the war.

Our second reason for joy is that at last, in this twentieth century of the Christian era, men have learnt, in a lesson that surely can never be forgotten, the truth about warfare. To quote from an article in the *Quarterly Review* for October:—

> "The mere process of warfare is indisputably a vile, inhuman, devilish abomination, plunged in squalor and filth. It is approached through seas of mud, and pursued amid vermin and all uncleanness. It degrades the body of man; more than that, it would destroy his very soul itself, were it not for the divine fire that burns at the heart of humanity, and consumes even the weapons of war in the white heat of its truth."

"A vile, inhuman, devilish abomination!" This lesson is one which women and men must never forget. It is a lesson which women have been learning since the early days when civilisation was dawning; women knew the truth about war then and when civilisation was at its height—those women whom war left homeless and unprotected. Some men also knew this, before the days when Belgium became a sea of mud; and because he realised the meaning of war, Lord Grey, in those awful days of anxiety in July, 1914, strained every strand which held the fabric of statesmanship together, in order to save Europe from warfare. This is our second reason for rejoicing: the human race now knows the terrible truth about war—"a truth that may yet help to set free the soul of humanity for nobler victories in the years of peace."

In the past, Peace has been proclaimed and acclaimed again and again; but surely no such Peace as that for which we waited in confident expectation. The Peace of 1918 will usher into this broken-hearted and contrite world a new order; in the establishment of this new order women must and may take an active part, not only inside the home, but outside, in the world at large. "Home" has always and rightly in the past been a sacred word to us Britons. In that new order which we women are called upon to help to establish the world at large shall also become sacred. For numbers of the present generation of young women, the word "home" must recall memories of childhood only—it will be to them, as they grow middle-aged, solely a symbol, because the men who would have called them "wife" rest under foreign soil or beneath the depths of the sea. But although Home may be to them only a symbol, the world at large is for them a grim reality, and it is there that their highest womanly qualities must in future find expression in service. This is our third cause for rejoicing.

We were told in the past: "The trouble about you women is, there are too many of you!" And our answer was: "There is not one too many, even as there is not one star too many in the skies." It is surely our task in building up the new order, to secure that every woman's power for service is utilised, and in the right direction. All professions must be opened to women and no woman must be debarred, through poverty or prejudice, from offering her highest talents to the community.

Women are needed in thousands for the teaching profession, in nursery schools, in primary, secondary and continuation schools. Women are needed as architects, as builders (is there any reason why those who have helped to build us ships should not build us houses?) They are needed as chartered accountants, in banking, as solicitors, as barristers; they are needed on the magistrates' bench and in the judges' seat. How many women are needed in the medical profession and as officials under the Ministry of Health? They should find work to their hands in the higher administrative posts of the Civil Service. In our Embassies and in our Consulates women should be employed in posts of responsibility. India is crying out for medical women, for teachers of all kinds. The problem of securing women teachers for overseas is one of anxiety, both there and at home. There is in fact nowhere in the Empire, both inside and outside the Home, where women are not needed in the task of reconstruction which lies before us.

Last week two great meetings were held in Queen's Hall—one on Wednesday 5th on "Equal opportunity, equal work, equal pay." Women ask this, not for themselves (for were they

convinced that it was just and right, they would wrap their talents in a napkin and bring them without a tear, as so many of their sisters were forced to do in the past) but for the sake of the human race. The second meeting, held the following night, was to demand the withdrawal of 40D D.O.R.A. And this is our fourth reason for rejoicing. The war has established the fact that the equal standard of sex morality—the Christian standard—is the standard which must be demanded for the welfare of mankind. Equal opportunity and the equal standard hang together. We believe that the public opinion which accepted "the oldest profession in the world" as an alternative vocation to that of wife and mother has died the death. But in order that it may not be resuscitated in the anxious years which will follow this war, "equal opportunity" must come. Then those pre-war days of semi-starvation for the wage-earning woman, semi-educated and wholly untrained, can never return. The lives of lonely working women must never again become, what they were in the past, a perpetual Lent: for neither man nor woman can live by bread alone. Again, we rejoice, because equal opportunity and the equal standard mean a physical, mental and spiritual development of the human race such as hitherto has not been imagined.

When we speak of the human race we include those peoples of Central Europe who out of the wreckage of war are emerging, freed from their slavery. Our agony was necessary that they, as we, might become free. For these reasons we rejoice, at the coming of Peace, for the sake of men as for the sake of women. We are alike members of humanity and our cause is a common one.

Mothers and Sons.

Sir Oliver Lodge's last book, *Christopher*,* suggests some reflections on the change that the gradual enfranchisement of women is bringing about in the education of boys, and in the possibilities of family life. The book in question is a memoir of Christopher Tennant,† whose name is well known to many of our readers, because of his mother's work for the N.U.W.S.S. He himself was only nineteen when he was killed in action in September, 1917; so he belonged to the younger generation which has felt the influence of the suffrage struggle, and has, in many cases, been brought up by mothers who are taking part in it. That struggle was so engrossing, and the end of the first stage came with such apparent suddenness, and in a time of such trouble, that there has hardly been time to look round at the harvest. It has to be counted not in political gains alone, but in the rapid change in our social relations; and although the new opportunities for girls are the most easily visible fruits of it, the new atmosphere for boys is a not less remarkable gain.

For boys have suffered hardly less than girls from sex-inequality and sex-segregation. Proud as we are of our English family life, we must admit that it has erred in this respect, and that it has erred most in that class whose children have otherwise had the best opportunities. Towards the end of last century Stevenson, who was not an Englishman, and who cared little for conventions, wrote: "It is the object of a liberal education not only to obscure the knowledge of one sex by another, but to magnify the natural differences between the two. Man is a creature who lives not by bread alone, but principally by catchwords; and the little rift between the sexes is astonishingly widened by simply teaching one set of catchwords to the boys and another to the girls. . . . They are taught to follow different virtues, to hate different vices, to place their ideals even for each other in different achievements." We have all heard the catchwords; they have not yet fallen into total disuse; many mothers, and most nurses still think that the proudest thing they can say about a male nurseling is: "Isn't he a *regular* boy." Some little girls are still taught that to be rough and tiresome is to be "like a boy"; some little boys are still told that to be cowardly and cry about nothing is to be "like a girl"; and some parents still rejoice when they can say that their infant sons have "got beyond petticoat government." But all this is rapidly changing; the nurseries of to-day are different from the nuseries of last century, chiefly because the mothers penetrate into them far more than they did, and the change that has come over our nurseries is beginning also to affect our schools. It does so more slowly than it otherwise would, because the British public school system, as reformed by Dr. Arnold has so many virtues, that the flaw at its centre is not easily perceived. The flaw is undoubtedly sex segregation. The author of "Eminent Victorians" suggests that Dr. Arnold might have effected more if he had sought to bring his boys "into contact with civilised men, even perhaps with civilised women." He did not do so and the result of his efforts was to perfect that manner of bringing up boys which is vividly and exultantly described in many works of nineteenth century prose, and nowhere better than in Mr. Kipling's delightful story of "The Brushwood Boy." The Brushwood boy escaped from the natural results of his education, by enjoying, in dreams, that equal companionship with the other sex, which was denied to his waking hours, from the time when he was scolded by his nurse for "talking to strange little girls," till the time when, as he had arrived at being a major and a D.S.O., it was thought proper by his family that he should make a suitable marriage. By a peculiar intervention of Providence, the playmate of his dreams turned out to be identical with the young lady selected by his mother as a suitable wife for him; otherwise he would never have met her at all, and the probabilities are that he either would not have married, or that if he had married he would not have found any very true companionship. All eligible young ladies are not "Brushwood girls," and few majors in the army are so blest as the "Brushwood boy." As Mr. Kipling himself points out in this very story, public schools do not encourage dreaming, nor do they encourage fellowship with girls; thousands of boys have passed through childhood and adolescence and young manhood without any proper opportunities for reasonable, and natural intercourse with the other sex. The same has of course been true about girls; the result in their case has been "marriage as trade," and old maids. In the case of the boys it has been even more disastrous, since in many cases it has led not only to their missing happiness, but to their doing irreparable harm to themselves and other people.

But if it is fair to say that our old system of education did not give the institution of marriage a fair chance, it is equally true that it did not allow other family relations a full development; even the intercourse between sisters and brothers and, worse still, between mothers and sons was severely restricted by it. It was not only the actual bodily separation which boarding school education entails, but the separation of interests. A mother of the last generation commenting sadly on the departure of her seven years old son for his first preparatory school, said that he would "never come home again, except on a visit." The boy who has left home, and comes back to it only for holidays, vacation, or leave, has too often been treated as an honoured or a troublesome guest, but not as a responsible member of the family as his sisters were. He has indeed generally been regarded as superior to them, and they have had to give in to him while he was at home, both because he was a boy and because he was so seldom there; but it has been difficult for him, unless he was unusually sympathetic, to take his full share in the home world.

He has lived in a world apart, arranged entirely by men. The conditions of school life have made it practically impossible for most mothers to have any say in the education of their sons after early childhood; never having been at public schools, or universities, or in professions themselves, they have had no experience to go by. It has, moreover, been taken for granted that these were matters about which women could know nothing; alike in the serious occupations and in the amusements of their sons, they have been able to take an interest only from the outside.

When one takes all this into account, and when one remembers the half-contemptuous, chaffing attitude which boys are often encouraged to adopt to their sisters and even in some cases to their mothers, one can only wonder that English family life has remained so sound as it has; that so many mothers and sons, and so many brothers and sisters have triumphantly surmounted the obstacles in the way of their friendship; and that so many young Englishmen have succeeded in being fine all-round human beings. But already the whole atmosphere of education is changing for boys as well as for girls, and we begin to realise how much we may hope from family relations, when the greatest flaw of sex-inequality is removed. The record of Christopher's friendship with his mother, a relation which both felt that neither separation nor death could touch, is fresh evidence of this fact. Outwardly, his education was on the old pattern; he went to the preparatory school, to Winchester, and to Sandhurst, but the spirit of it was different, and in reading the book one feels that the close and tender companionship described in it could only have existed between two people who felt themselves to be equals.

* **Christopher: A Study in Human Personality.** By Sir Oliver Lodge. Published Cassell & Co. (2s. net).

† See "Obituary" in The Common Cause, September 14th, 1917.

The children of suffragist households have indeed had this advantage, that they have breathed the atmosphere of freedom from birth. They have also breathed the atmosphere of work, and this book makes one realise, or realise afresh, that a woman's public service need not mean the sacrifice of her children, but may be the greatest good she can do for them. The mothers who have said, as many have said in the past, "I have no life of my own now, I only live for my children," generally meant what they said, and believed that they were doing right. Their attitude was none the less disastrous and was often the ruin of family life. An amusing novel of some years back described a young man who liked to picture his mother always waiting for him on the doorstep of his ancestral home. There has been too much waiting on doorsteps in the past. Those who have spent so much of their lives in doing it that they have almost succeeded in having no lives of their own, have had all the less to give to their families, and have sometimes ended by expecting their children to give them *their* lives. The book before us records an opposite course of action and its results. Many references in it, and especially in the letters it includes, show how the mother's social work, and above all her suffrage work, united her more closely to her son and enabled them to understand each other in a way they could not have done, if they had not each been striving actively for the same beloved idea.

Their endeavour necessarily took a different form for each, and led to a different point. It is significant of the times in which we live, that this evidence of what the new atmosphere in education promises, comes to us as the story of a life which was given up at nineteen. The first generation of Englishmen brought up by mothers striving for freedom, has thrown itself into a furnace of anguish for the love of freedom. We realise what family affection may be at a time when thousands of families have lost all that made their joy on earth; and those who are alive now must needs see their hope through their tears. But the hope is there; the workers, who, in face of all difficulties, have striven to bring up their sons with the right ideas about women, the suffragists who have worked very hard for a more ideal relation between the sexes, have not laboured in vain, any more than the men who have fallen have died in vain. It was for the same immortal cause.

I. B. O'Malley.

Reviews.

Handbook on Local Government. By E. Bright Ashford, B.A., and Edith Place. Published by the Women's Municipal Party. (Richard Bates, Manchester. 1s. 6d. net.)

This extremely useful little handbook contrives to give a survey of our Local Government which is both clear and interesting. When one considers how intricate the system is and how dull much of it has sometimes seemed this is an achievement on which we may congratulate the authors. It deals more especially with London, but includes facts about the rest of England and Wales, and, where necessary, compares them with London. The handbook will be found valuable by the new women voters, and should be used by Women Citizens' Associations.

The Englishwoman Magazine. (November. 1s. net.)

Miss Emily Phipps contributes an exceedingly well-written and well-reasoned article on "Salaries in Secondary Schools" to this month's *Englishwoman*, at the beginning of which she points out that the conclusion come to by the Departmental Committee on their subject—"that sex should be a determining factor in the fixing of salary scales"—need not surprise us, in view of the fact that only five out of twenty-one Commissioners were women, and out of a hundred and nine witnesses, seventy-eight were men! The whole article is worth careful reading.

Miss Rhoda Power continues—but at a point chronologically further back than before—her narrative of experiences in Russia. She writes with unaffected matter-of-factness of incidents which chill the reader's blood: bad air-raids are the nearest that we in England have come to such events. *The Englishwoman* also contains the second part of "War Experiences in Armenia," a useful article on "Village Kitchens," and another on "The Drama of the Day."

Type. (The House Journal of the Morland Press. Number 6. November, 1918. Price 1s. 3d.)

Type has an exterior that recalls the "brushwork" of our childhood; but its interior is at least superficially most mature, careful, and precious. In it is reproduced the title-page from Vol. 1 of *Root and Branch*; and this is a pity, for it is not at all a good title-page; the balance is all wrong—one longs to prop up the leaning trees. The other illustrations are charming; the letterpress is not inspiring, but it is so beautifully printed on such good paper that it gains a perhaps illusory weight and flavour. The most interesting thing about the magazine is the announcement of Number Two of *The Green Pastures Series*—"In Memoriam: Edward Thomas, Poems, and other matter by and about him." This book will be eagerly waited for and read by all lovers of literature.

Correspondence.

[*Letters written on both sides of the paper can in no case be published.*—Ed.]

THE FUTURE OF THE N.U.W.S.S.

Madam,—I have read with interest the recent letters from Mrs. Walford Common and Miss Margaret Jones. There seems to be an essential difference of idea between the two, just as there is between the spirit of a pioneer and of a settler.

I remember a frequent taunt from Anti-Suffragists in the past—"Ah! what you are asking would just be the thin end of the wedge." Miss Margaret Jones, and many more of us "millions, mostly unenlightened," having gained a very small portion of our original object, have by now just comfortably warmed to the work. We have, so to speak, thin-ended; we now eagerly and hopefully want to "wedge."

Now, Mrs. Walford Common has no wish to "wedge." Having reached this plateau, she wishes us all to stop and cultivate the ground—an excellent thing in itself, but not work for pioneers, and the Suffrage movement has always been one of pioneers. As another Common Cause writer suggests, we must be willing, "not only to take the torch, but to pass it on." This brings us to the consideration of the fact that the movement for the extension of the franchise has always been only a part of the great feminist movement—unorganised, largely unconscious—but strong as the sea. Thus it has happened that besides our Suffrage resolutions, we have as a society always supported whatever parallel advance was being made contemporaneously by other feminists.

These last four years have seen a very swift advance, not only of Suffragists, but of the whole feminist army. We have reached a vantage-ground, and a world of new possibilties has opened out before us, and thus our Executive is now passing resolutions on such matters as the admission of women to Parliament, equal pay, the equal moral standard, the enforcement of wives' maintenance orders, and equality of parents in guardianship of children, and many other matters, of which Mrs. Smithson says: "Surely the need of most of these reforms has been a staple argument for the Suffrage ever since women began to demand it."

The reason is, that the principle behind all these cases is the equality principle, and it seems to me that in each of these issues it would be accepted without question by ninety-nine out of every hundred members of Suffrage Societies. Protests against 40 D. D.O.R.A. have been pouring out from organisations of all sorts; and "Equal Pay" resolutions were sent in to a recent meeting of the "Federation of Women Teachers" from so numerous a list of women's societies that it was several lines long.

I am writing to their Secretary for a copy of the list, which I shall forward to Mrs. Common, so that, whatever her private views on this and similar subjects, she may not in future make such sweeping and unfair allegations as that our Executive exists "as a pretext for saying, when it passes resolutions, that it has the numbers of its societies behind it. And as a matter of fact, it has not these members of its societies behind it."

The fact is, that with all due appreciation of the work Mrs. Common has done as a Suffragist, when she makes such a statement as the above, she simply shows that she is herself no longer abreast of progressive feminist thought. One suspects, indeed, that she is somewhat nervous as to the advisability of the advance already made. She speaks of the "power we have put into ignorant hands." She quotes "we must educate our masters," and refers to the "millions of women, mostly enlightened," in a way that seems out of touch with the truly humble and democratic spirit in which the best of our Union have laboured in the past to give to all women a means of self-expression, in the belief that all had something to offer for the service of humanity. A writer signing herself "Bertha Aiken" agrees with Mrs. Common. She says: "It is a plain fact that the mass of women who are now enfranchised have never been our members." Of course, they have not; that is why a pioneer Society, such as the N.U.W.S.S., was so urgently needed.

But, on the whole, these "masses of women" are taking very kindly to the votes we have won for them; and when, after another interval, we gain something further, they will appropriate it with equal satisfaction. But who is to do the pioneer work if not ourselves?

Margaret Weddell.

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

Madam,—(1). The influenza has brought the Ministry of Health perceptibly nearer; and it is, I believe, agreed that it shall have nothing to do with the Poor Law, and sick poor shall be taken out of the hands of the Poor Law Guardians. There is, however, a serious danger lest, when the large bundle of duties of the Poor Law authorities are being handed over to new authorities, some very important items will either carelessly or intentionally be dropped on the way. I refer to the *Duty* to relieve the necessitous sick, with the corresponding *Right* of the necessitous sick to medical help and other necessaries conferred by 43 Elizabeth c. 2; and to the almost equally important provision of our present Poor Law, that there shall be some official who shall be *personally* responsible if in any urgent case the duty is neglected. I have no doubt that the newly constituted bodies will be given the power to relieve the necessitous sick, but this is not enough; the sick must keep their legal right; the bodies must not only have the power, but the legal duty impressed upon them; and some individual must be personally liable if, through his neglect, the sick poor suffer needlessly.

(2). The danger is by no means imaginary. The recent Report of the L.G.B. Committee on Reconstruction, while suggesting the addition of Boards of Guardians, and apparently of the Poor Law itself, makes no provision for keeping alive the right to relief. This is the more ominous, as the Minority Report of the Royal Commission on Poor Law—which must have been well-known to all the signatories of the Reconstruction Report—carefully recommends the preservation of the right. Also, some little time ago, when a question was asked in the House, whether in any Bill brought in by the local Government as to Poor Relief the right to relief would be maintained, the reply was ambiguous. There are many persons who would like to abolish this most valuable right of the poor.

J. Theodore Dodd, Barrister-at-Law.

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EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK AND ENDOWMENT OF MATERNITY.

Madam,—It is often urged that women have neither the same physical or mental ability as men, and therefore if they were paid the same rate for the same work, men would take their places. In a school of 150 children, a man cannot take the place of the woman in charge of the 50 infants, nor of the woman in charge of the 50 girls. The mental strain for the women is probably equal to that of the man in charge of the 50 boys. The managers may even know that the women are more capable than the man, yet while these two are paid equal wages he will be paid £50 a year more. The reason alleged would be that he might be the father of a family. Yet if he is a single man he will get the extra £50, as he would if he were married with no children, and the women teachers might have dependent relatives to support.

In reality, if men only consider the money point of view, no high salaries would induce them to maintain a family. We know that the reduction of families prevails in all classes, for whatever be the income, each child as it comes into the home reduces the amount available for those already there. The man's salary may be further increased as the reward of long service, or of proved ability, but unless this takes place when the outlay for the children is greatest, it does not help them.

If we could see clearly that we all reap from a harvest of healthy, capable, children, we should all be more ready to help those parents who are bringing them up for us all. We should give this help, not to bachelors, nor to childless couples, but to the parents, and better, to the mother of each child.

These allowances for each child, not random flat rates, will enable employers to deal fairly with all their workers, whether male or female. It would be an advantage to most employers, especially large employers, to adopt such a system at once, though a state subsidy would equalise conditions of employment everywhere, and if the state would help, they could introduce conditions so as to nurture in neglected homes, which the private employer could not insure, for it would be lost money to pay for the nurture of neglected children.

But we should also consider the increasing cost of maintaining children in a home where the labourer earned not more than £1 a week in peace time, and where a schoolmaster was earning four times as much.

If we allow 2s. 6d. for every £1 earned by the father up to, say a limit of perhaps 10s. per child per week, we shall encourage the father both to increase the earnings which maintain him and the family which will maintain us. These allowances would be dependent on the mother taking good care of her children, and we would pay her a wage that would in some measure replace the salary she will lose.

If a husband is earning £4 a week, his wife would receive £7 8 if she cared for three children at home, while a labourer's wife would reveive £1 9 10s. This would be nearly a shilling a year for every shilling a week earned by the father, and adjustments could easily be made for varying incomes.

We need not be fearful that these mother's wages would be too large where there are large families. They would assist the mother to engage the help she so much needs. And in all families the wage would go far to solve the housing problem. It would be the only wage which increased with the size of the family, and enabled the housewife to fit her home to her children. Now, too often she must squeeze her growing household into a house which seems to grow ever smaller.

One of the first requests of free women has been that their labour shall be fairly paid when working at the same work as men. If we grant this request and then go one step further, paying them in some measure for their work in the home as well as in the field and factory, we shall all gain. Children will be brought up in comfort. Parents will be well-housed. Employers will be able to pay fair wages for the work they receive, and the nation will have strong young citizens growing up to contented man and womanhood.

Herbert A. Day.

WAR PENSIONS.

Madam,—Perhaps it might interest your readers to have their attention drawn to an answer, given in Parliament, October 23rd, by the Minister of Pensions (Mr. T. Hodge), to a question put by Mr. J. Needham, M.P., based on a case in my experience, where a notification had been sent to a soldier's wife by a War Pensions Committee, that a grant of 5s. a week (for rent, insurances, &c.), *would be reduced to 2s. 6d. a week on the birth of her expected child* Her extra separation allowance would be 3s. 6d. a week, so that the net amount to support the new child would be 1s. a week.

The reply ran: ". . . . . If as the result of an addition to present inccome—whether by increased separation allowance following the birth of a child or otherwise—the disproportion becomes less than the allowance in issue a reduction in the allowance must be made. If the income should again fall, *as by the death of the child*, the former allowance would be restored. The purpose of this regulation [7.1.A.] is to put the wife as far as possible in the financial position she would have been in if her husband had remained in civil life, and that normally the income of a civilian does not rise with each increase in his family."

It is true that usually, though there are many exceptions, income does not increase with the birth of a child. That is why many advocate maternity grants. But it is most undesirable for a Government to proclaim to a wife: "If you have a child, we, the Government, will see that you lose by it: on the other hand, if the child dies, we, the Government, will see that you gain by it. This encourages infanticide rather than maternity.

P. Robinson.

"A LEVY ON CAPITAL."

Madam,—In your friendly notice of my book, *A Levy on Capital*, your reviewer gives figures for the post-war debt which needs some explanation. Why should the aggregate debt for the United Kingdom six months after the close of hostilities be between 9,000 and 10,000 millions? On November 2nd, 1918, the total funded and unfunded debt stood at 7,074 millions, and even if borrowing continues at the present rate for the whole of the next six months, which is a very liberal estimate, it will not reach 8,000 millions. I do not therefore think that my estimate of the debt at March 31st next of 7,300 millions, based on a somewhat earlier termination of the war will be so much exceeded.

F. W. Pethick Lawrence.

Reports, Notices, etc.

MEETING TO DEMAND THE WITHDRAWAL OF 40 D D.O.R.A.

Fifty-four Societies (including the N.U.W.S.S.) co-operated with the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in organising the above meeting, which took place on November 6th at the Queen's Hall. Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., was in the chair, and the speakers were the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kensington, Miss A. Maude Royden, Mr. E. Beadon Turner, F.R.C.S., and Mrs. Bramwell Booth. Miss Mary Macarthur and the Right Rev. Mgr. Provost Brown were unable to speak as arranged, but sent messages of support to the meeting.

Mrs. Fawcett said that the present was a very solemn hour of national and international thanksgiving for the near approach of peace. All remembered with reverent gratitude the millions of brave men who had laid down their lives on sea and land; and also those who had guided the ship of State safely through the years of war. But remembering these things vividly and unceasingly, women of many societies, of all parties and no party, had met together to-night to utter their united and vehement protest against Regulation 40 D D.O.R.A.; nay, more, to demand with one voice its immediate withdrawal. Mrs. Fawcett contended that this Regulation had no single redeeming feature. Firstly, it was based on the ancient out-of-date iniquity of the sexual subjection of women, on the long discredited notion that irregular sexual intercourse was necessary for men, and that military authorities were, therefore, under some sort of obligation to see the soldiers had access to what the Under-Secretary of State in February called "clean women," with whom this intercourse could take place with safety. Against this idea women protested with passion. Secondly, this implied promise of safety was wholly illusory. The fallacious offer of it weakened self-control and self-respect, and therefore increased the evil it purported to remove. The countries longest under regulation were the most deeply tainted with venereal disease. Thirdly, 40 D. opened the door to blackmail of the vilest kind against women. Any unprincipled man in H.M. Forces could denounce any woman, who had no means of clearing herself but by submission to degrading and humiliating physical outrage. Blackmail was no imaginary danger. Out of a group of cases recently investigated almost 33 per cent. were proved to have been maliciously brought. Fourthly, charges under this Order were almost incapable of proof, because where promiscuous intercourse had taken place, it was almost impossible to say which party to it had infected the other. Fifthly, it was unequal as between men and women, women being punishable for actions which men might and did commit with legal impunity. Sixthly, as a measure of public health, it was condemned by medical authorities as futile. (In this connection, Mrs. Fawcett recommended her audience to read the article in *The Lancet* of August 17th.) 40 D. had many of the worst features of the C.D. Acts, repealed thirty-three years ago, in consequence of seventeen years devoted work by Josephine Butler.

There was one consolatory consideration; the regulation had not been imposed by Parliament—in all probability, the consent of Parliament could not have been obtained for it. A stroke of the pen created it, a stroke of the pen must destroy it. Women demanded that it should be destroyed. Mrs. Fawcett reminded the meeting of the enormous change in the political position of women. Part of the sovereign power of this great country was now vested in them; and, if they did not get this hateful regulation withdrawn they would become responsible for it. Every woman must question the candidates in her constituency, and refuse to vote for any man who upheld this iniquity. Mrs. Fawcett then moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting demands the immediate withdrawal of Regulation 40 D. D.O.R.A."

This resolution was carried unanimously at the end of the meeting.

The Bishop of Kensington, in seconding, said that the regulation was an outrage on the moral sense; it was a product of the double moral standard, which has always been unjust to women, 40 D. would retain the stigma of injustice until it was applied to all, both men and women. It was, firstly, unjust because it applied to all women and only to some men; secondly, because it put the charged woman at the mercy of the informant. It was our proud boast as a nation that we took the field for *honour alone;* we and our Allies had said that it was for freedom we were fighting; and yet we were willing to make selfish lust safe by this regulation—a regulation which made slaves of women. (Cries of "Hypocrites!") We stood self-condemned. We arranged for the victims of man's lust to be healthy victims, and in the same breath we proclaimed our championship of freedom. Before we could be firm with people and deal with them for their good, we must be fair. We must treat men and women alike.

Miss Royden began her speech by remarking on the meeting's resemblance to the "good old days before we had the vote"; not only because she followed her leader, Mrs. Fawcett, and one of the three or four bishops who was a Suffragist *before* February, 1918, but also because the arguments regarding 40 D. which had to be met were very like the old anti-arguments: "This measure is just; and if it is not just it doesn't matter." Many people, Miss Royden went on to say, were misled by Lord Derby's answer in the House to an objection made to 40 D. He did not actually state, but he suggested, that the soldier was punished even more severely than the woman. But the facts were these: a soldier was punished for *concealing* venereal disease; but not for infecting one or fifty women; the health of women was no concern of the military authorities. If he reported his case he was *not* punished. Was it possible to conceive a more insulting assumption—that the health of a man matters, but not the health of a woman?

The real point in defence of 40 D. to be met was this: that it applied to a class of women so degraded already that nothing could degrade them further. It was a dangerous, a devilish doctrine that said: "He or she was so degraded that it didn't matter what was done to them." If there was one point in 40 D. that, said Miss Royden, commended itself to her, it was that it did *not* concern only degraded women, but all women. It recognised no chasm between the respectable and those "gone wrong." There were many young girls in danger, whose danger was increased by 40 D., which pushed them over the verge. They were away from home, alone, overworked, excited; they yielded to temptation. The speaker forcibly deprecated the idea that women did not feel temptation like men. How did people dare to appeal to girls to come and serve in the W.A.A.C., the W.R.N.S., and the R.A.F., while this regulation was in force? The

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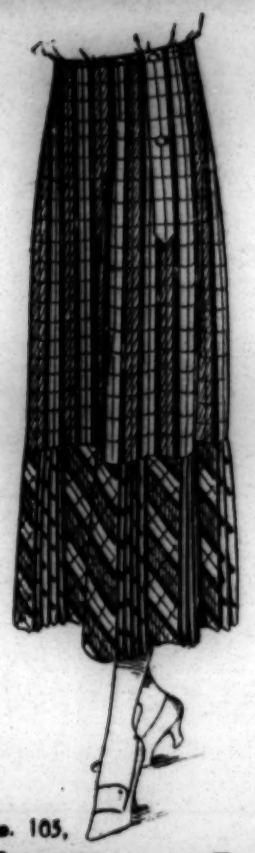

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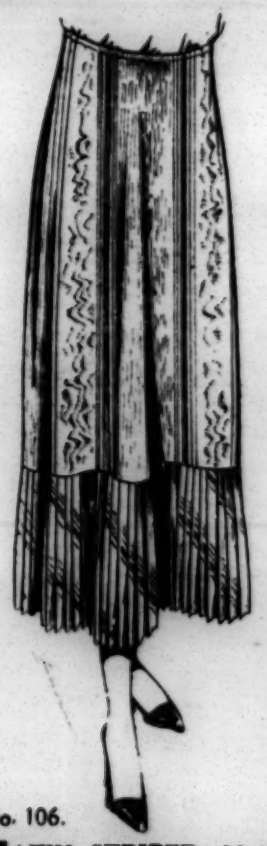

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interests of these girls—of all the yet unenfranchised women under thirty (cries of "Shame!") were in the hands of the older women: it was essential to put their interests first, and to ask each candidate: "Do you support 40 D. or not?"

Mr. Beadon Turner made an extremely clear and interesting speech on the medical aspect of 40 D., in the course of which he stated that cases under the regulation rested on medical evidence; and that it was not always possible for evidence of these diseases to be incontrovertible. He referred to the young girls, often completely ignorant, not only of having venereal disease, but of the very existence of these diseases. Were they to be punished for an offence which they had perpetrated in complete ignorance? Often they yielded to temptation because they felt they could refuse nothing to the soldiers who fought for them. Mr. Beadon concluded by affirming that 40 D. was conceived in a panic, brought forth in a hurry; was tactless, unworkable, and unfair.

Mrs. Bramwell Booth, representative of the Salvation Army, also made a fine speech.

Miss Alison Neilans, Secretary of Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, then read a statement which the Association wish to make public, but which did not involve any of the speakers, those on the platform, nor the Societies co-operating with the Association:—

"The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, after further consideration, is not prepared to approve any general measure for penalising the communication of Venereal Disease. The Association considers that children or young persons should be specially safeguarded against infection by amending Section 12 of the Children's Act, 1908 (as to causing injury to children by neglect or ill-treatment) so as specifically to cover all cases of venereal infection by negligence or assault. The Association is of opinion that cases of conjugal infection should not be met by penalisation, but by legislation giving statutory recognition of the principle that infectious Venereal Disease should be a sufficient ground for annullity or dissolution of marriage. The Association is also of opinion that in conduct essentially irresponsible and unhygienic as that of promiscuous sexual intercourse, it is impossible to fix the responsibility for transmission of Venereal Disease, and that the attempt to do so is inexpedient and misleading. Further, that if the experiment were tried it would not secure any ultimate reduction in the prevalence of Venereal Disease."

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
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Secretaries:
Miss Agnew, Mrs. Hubback (Information and Parliamentary).

Offices—Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.
Telegraphic Address—Volceless, Ox, London. Telephone—Museum 2668.

Headquarter Notes.

Although the appeal for funds to help on the work against 40 D D.O.R.A. only began going out on Saturday last, just over £40 has already been received at this office to-day (Tuesday). This most encouraging response in so short a time makes it clear what strong feeling there is against this regulation, and also serves to show what good friends the National Union has to fall back upon in their fight for women's freedom. The appeal is printed in full below:—

> We are venturing to appeal to you for help for our Autumn Campaign, and we believe that you will feel it is especially the duty of the N.U.W.S.S. to help women to put their newly-won political powers to good use. We have hardly secured the Vote when we are confronted with questions on which women feel very strongly, and for which they have a special responsibility. Perhaps the most urgent of these is the moral question raised by the notorious Regulation 40 D, a Regulation by which officials have gone behind the decision of the House of Commons and secured by means of an Order in Council what they were not able to extort from Parliament. They have, in fact, practically re-enacted the famous Contagious Diseases Acts which were removed from the Statute Book by the heroic work of Mrs. Josephine Butler.
>
> According to Order 40 D, any woman, who is said by a member of H.M. Forces to have infected him with venereal disease is brought into Court, charged with the offence, and expected to clear herself by submitting to a peculiarly detestable form of medical examination. You will notice that:—
>
> (1) In some cases she is not confronted with her accuser.
> (2) If he appears in Court, his name is certainly given, but is generally withheld by the Press.
> (3) No attempt is made to prove her guilt.
> (4) She is required herself to prove her innocence.
>
> In other words, every principle of British Law is violated by this Regulation, and though some Magistrates do dismiss the case if there is no evidence and the woman refuses to be examined, many women do not realise that they *can* refuse, or fear to be (illegally) "remanded" again and again till they consent.
>
> If a woman is found to be diseased she is assumed to be guilty, though obviously the presence of disease is no evidence whatever that she has handed it on to anyone else.
>
> She is then liable to six months' imprisonment. If at the end of that time she is not cured she is utterly at the mercy of the police. On very slight evidence she may be charged by a member of H.M. Forces with solicitation, once more examined, found to be diseased, and again imprisoned.
>
> This is, in fact, simply the Contagious Diseases Acts in another form.

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An entirely false assurance is given to the men who are led to suppose that indulgence in vice is being "made safe," while at the same time such indulgence is assumed to be necessary. This assumption naturally increases the temptations to which men are exposed, while, on the other hand, women are subjected to the gravest injustice, and already many women having no disease whatever have been charged, submitted to medical examination, and discharged without the smallest apology or compensation for the outrage to which they have submitted.

Public opinion is rising against this infamous Regulation, but in the meantime an attempt is being made to get the substance of it embodied in a bill and pressed through the House of Commons.

It would, indeed, be a dishonour to all women if the great work accomplished by Mrs. Butler, without the powerful weapon of the Vote, were to be undone in the first year of the Enfranchisement of Women. We surely should be able to do not less, but far more than she, fighting as she was "outside the Constitution." We are armed with the Vote, and we know that we have only to enlighten public opinion and our Cause will be won. We appeal to you then to help us to press the campaign against "Regulation of Vice" in all its forms, and to urge instead the provision of facilities for the treatment of venereal disease, the spread of knowledge, and other measures to combat not only disease, but vice. We can succeed in the task, and win it at once if only you will help us to act now, but we need funds for meetings, literature, and all the other means of focussing public opinion.

Will you send us a contribution, small or great, and we will use it to the utmost advantage. All such help should be sent to Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, Hon. Treas., N.U.W.S.S., 62, Oxford Street, W. 1.—Yours faithfully,

MILLICENT G. FAWCETT."

The list of donations in reply to the above appeal is held over owing to lack of space; it will be published next week.

Donations to the general fund have been sent from the Societies of Dewsbury, Bradford, Barnsley, and Kidderminster. The growing list of societies sending special donations for carrying on the work at Headquarters arouses a hope that every society and union will do the same.

Literature Department.

The Literature Department is selling excellent pre-war quarto paper with coloured corners and small envelopes to match. The library is adding each week to the books on its shelves. The catalogue is now ready (price 6d.); the Librarian is most anxious for suggestions for new books, and is prepared to order books not in the library if they are wanted. The Information Bureau will make special arrangements with societies which wish to be supplied with any definite kind of information. For instance, an arrangement has been made with the Medical Women's Federation, by which the Information Bureau is to forward all extracts from Hansard relating to matters of interest to them. Such an arrangement absolves a society from the lengthy job of indexing its own Hansard, and at the same time ensures that they have a record of everything that comes up in Parliament relating to their own special subjects. A Women's Citizens Association is being supplied with copies of all bills dealing with subjects likely to be of interest to them, and a watching brief for other publications is being kept for several individuals.

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

DRAWING-ROOM MEETING AT S. BARNABAS HOME, SOUTHWOLD.

On Saturday, October 19th, Miss Perry kindly arranged a drawing-room meeting in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals at St. Barnabas Home, Southwold. Nurse Mortimer, who served under Dr. Elsie Inglis in Serbia in 1915, gave a most graphic and interesting account of her experiences at Kragujevatz, Valjevo, and Krushivatz, in which latter place the unit to which she belonged was taken prisoner. Her narrative had all the merits of a personal description in its simplicity and in its intimate detail; but the splendid work that she herself must have done was entirely left to the imagination of the audience. She also spoke of her time as a prisoner in Austria.

A collection of £2 was raised as a result of the meeting.

Dr. Emslie, C.M.O., of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, until recently stationed at Ostrovo, has written to say that the Hospital is to be moved to Vranja, north of Uskub. There is a great deal of work to be done there and the need is urgent. The barracks have been assigned to the S.W.H. as a hospital, a beautiful large building with plenty of land round it. There were already 600 men there when Dr. Emslie visited the place. The conditions were almost indescribable, the place filthy, the patients neglected and nearly starved. Serbian peasant girls quite ignorant of nursing, were tending the sick. The reception they gave to the Scottish Women was most touching. They listened eagerly to what the doctor and administrator told them during their short stay. When the visitors went away the girls wept and begged them to teach them, and help them. "We will be your servants," they said, "but do teach us and help us." It is evident that a great work can be done in the training of the young women in many ways, quite apart from the hospital.

There is an arduous and difficult time before the Unit, so difficult that all members were given the opportunity of returning home. The result was what might have been expected, they responded to a single woman, and were only eager to begin work. It was hoped that the whole party would be on the road by the morning of October 23rd. The "trek" was expected to occupy three or four days.

LECTURE AT CHINLEY.

A Lantern Lecture was held in St. Mary's Church Room on November 7th, with Col. McConnell in the chair, an interesting and stirring address being given by Miss M. E. Walker, who has been in Serbia, Salonica, and

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Corsica for several years. So pleased was her audience with her accounts—social, political, racial, and economic—of these countries, that it was decided to take advantage of Miss Walker's presence in England and to hold other meetings in adjoining districts.

A good sum was raised for the Chinley Bed, and in response to an appeal for clothing for the destitute refugees, several large parcels were immediately dispatched to the Serbian Red Cross.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, much new work being undertaken, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H. Red House, Greenock, or to Headquarters, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh. The great advance taking place at present on the Western and Eastern Fronts has caused the resources of the Scottish Women's Hospitals to be taxed to their utmost extent. The Committee urge, therefore, for continued, and even greater support from the public to meet the many demands that daily come from the various Units. Cheques should be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units should be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or to Miss Gosse, Joint Hon. Treasurers, S.W.H., 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to October 24th, 1918	349,951	17	5
Further donations received as at October 31st, 1918:—			
*Miss L. Coats	200	0	0
*Staff, Public School, Haddington, per A. Burnett, Esq. ...	4	0	0
Markinch Branch, Scotch Girls' Friendly Society, per Miss J. C. Oswald, Hon. Sec. ...	3	6	2
*Edinburgh University Student's Representative Council, per Miss H. Gray, Hon. Treas., to complete 1 year's upkeep of the "Student's" Bed (Royaumont)	18	5	11
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Employees, Messrs. Matthew Muir & Co., Kilmarnock ...	1	10	0
*Miss Madeline Brady (Serbia)		13	0
*Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundella, Hon. Treas. (August and September Collections): Workmen, Foremen, and Officials, Messrs. McColl & Pollock Ltd. (£8), Collected at 4, Belford Road: Mrs. Common (£1), Miss Common (£1), Mr. and Mrs. E. Common (£1), Mrs. Walford Common (£1), Mrs. Garcia (5s.), A Friend (2s.) (£4 7s.), Collected by Mrs. Mundella: Mrs. Eyres (10s.), S. H. C. (5s.), Miss M. Panton (5s.), Form VI., Bede Collegiate Girls' School (4s. 6d.), Miss A. Hedley (4s.), Mrs. A. Ritons (4s.), Mrs. Mundella (4s.) (£1 16s. 6d.), S. G. (9s.), Miss S. Brown (5s.)	14	17	6
*Mrs. C. E. Aldrich-Blake, per Miss Mabel Howell, Hon. Sec., Welsh Fund, S.W.H. (Sallanches)	3	0	0
*From a few friends of the late East Grinstead W.S.S., per Mrs. M. L. Reid (Royaumont)	7	15	0
Mrs. Aubrey Carter	6	0	0
Mrs. Boulton, per Mrs. Russell	2	0	0
Messrs. J. & R. N. Ramsay ...	5	0	0
*F. G. Penny, Esq.	1	0	0
*Per Miss Jacobsen, Organiser, S.W.H., Galashiels: *Hugh Roberts, Esq. (£10 10s.), Miss Isa Donald (1s.), Proceeds of Lantern Lecture by Miss Vera Holme (£34 14s 1d.), Proceeds of Concert by Galashiels Town Band, in Empire Theatre, on Sunday, October 27th, 1918 (£14 7s. 7d.), Employees, Netherdale Mill, per Miss A. L. Cochrane Bros Ltd., Netherdale Mill (£8 15s.), Employees, Ammonia Works, per R. P. Adams, Esq., Ammonia Works, Galashiels (£2 11s. 6d.), Employees, Hankrigg Mill, Galashiels, per Messrs. J. & J. C. Dorward, Hankrigg Mill (£2 6s. 9d.), Employees, Hankrigg Mill, Galashiels, Jas. Lyon, Esq., Messrs. W. Stewart & Co., Hankrigg Mill, Galashiels (£2 3s.), Employees, Bridge Mill, per Peter Anderson, Esq., Bridge Mill, Galashiels (£2) Employees, Victoria Dyeworks, per Messrs. James Brownlee & Son, Galashiels (£1 10s 6d.), Employees, Valley Mill, per G. Thomson, Esq. (£1 2s.), Proceeds of Sunday Morning Collecting Box, per Mrs. Brown (£1 0s. 2d.), Employees, Valley Mill, per Messrs. Kemp & McGlary (9s.)	31	10	7
Mrs. Ralston, per Miss Ferguson		5	0
*"From Subscribers in Tasmania," per R. A. Black Hon. Sec., S.W.H., Tasmania	220	1	0
*Collected by Boys of Elementary School, Ambleside, Result of Miss M. E. Walker's Address, per Miss Helen Ancliffe, Hon. Sec., Ambleside W.S.S. (Serbian Boys in Corsica)	1	4	0
*"Trades House and Incorporations Joint War Relief Funds," per Harry Lumsden, Esq.	150	0	0
*John Rutherford, Esq. ...	2	2	0
*Collected in Princes Street, Edinburgh, per Miss Latimer, Organiser, for "Princes Street" Beds	59	15	9
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: Lantern Lecture by Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Inverness (£33 11s. 6d.) Nairn (£6 5s. 8d.), Forres (given in Cluny Hill Hydropathic by courtesy of the Management) (£3 15s.), Pupils, Mill Hill School, Nairn, after Address (£1 5s. 2d.), Pupils, Nairn Academy, after Address (12s. 2d.) (£45 9s. 6d.), Pupils, Conely Park School, Falkirk, after Address, per Mr. W. A. Gray, Headmaster (£2), Lauriston "Women's Own Meeting," per Mr. Hardie, at Lantern Lecture (£1), *Workmen's Scheme:* Forth and Clyde and Sunnyside Iron Co., Falkirk: Employees (£10 8s. 3d.), Company (£10) (£20 8s. 3d.), *Employees, Messrs. McVitie & Price, St. Andrew Biscuit Works, Edinburgh, per J. C. Ross, Esq. (£20), Employees, Messrs. Hay Merricks, Explosive Works, Roslin (£8 11s.), *Leith Domestic Servants' Association, per Miss Young (£6), *Employees, Messrs. Duncan & Flockhart, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh (£5), Employees, Messrs. Bruce Peebles & Co., East Pitten, Edinburgh (£4 7s. 6d.), Heart of Midlothian Lodge, I.O.G.T., after Concert in G.T. Hall, South Bridge, Edinburgh, per Mrs. Linkie (£4), *Employees, Messrs. Thomson & Porteous, Greenside, Leith Street, Edinburgh (£3 12s.), Firm and Employees, Dorrator Iron Co., Falkirk, per J. Buckley McTurk, Director (£3 3s.), *Women Clerks, Accountants' Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per Miss Sutherland (£2 2s.), *National Union of Railwaymen, Longtown Branch, per Mr. A. Burgess, Sec., Cumberland (£1 17s. 9d.), *Staff Accountant's Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per A. P. Macmanus, Esq., Cashier (£1 15s.), Employees, J. Watt Torrence, Eastern Saw Mills, Grangemouth, per R. Brown, Esq. (16s. 6d.), *No. 4 Hoist Squad and Machinemen and Trimmers, Leith, per J. Munro, Esq., Leith (14s.)	130	16	6
Drawings at S.W.H. "Market Day," on October 10th, per Miss Campbell Irons, Organiser, S.W.H.	100	0	0
*Dundee W.S.S., per Miss McIntyre, Hon. Treas.: St. Margaret's School, Broughty-Ferry, per Miss Kydd, to maintain the 2 "St. Margaret's" School Beds at Royaumont (£50), Wm. MacKenzie, Esq. (£40), Employees, Messrs. Spalding & Velentine Ltd., Caledonian Works, Dundee (£14 1s.), Mrs. Miller (£10 10s.), Mrs. Gibson (£10), Employees, Messrs. T. L. Miller & Co. Ltd., Hillside Works, Nelson Street Factory, Dundee (£5 1s. 3d.), Mrs. Patrick Duncan (£5), "Three Sisters" (£3), Part Proceeds of Concert given by Girl Guides, per Miss Duncanson (£1), J. W. Morgan, Esq. (£1), Miss M. F. MacIntyre (£1), Alex. Grant, Esq. (10s.), Mrs. Wilson (10s.), The			

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Misses Patullo (5s.) (£141 17s. 3d.), *Less expenses* (£14 3s. 6d.)	127	13	9
*"Strone Women's Guild," per Miss Margaret Hogg, Hon. Treas.	1	10	0
"Anonymous" (Salary returned as donation)	151	1	0
*W. Ogilvy, Esq., per J. Allison, Esq., Jr.	50	0	0
*Anonymous	10	0	0
Miss G. Rait, by Arbroath (Serbia, £5) (Serbian Red Cross, £5)	10	0	0
*Mrs. Smith Nicol	5	0	0
Mrs. Halley (Serbia)	1	1	0
*Per Miss Mary E. Dalby, Hon. Treas., Birkenhead W.S.S., for "Birkenhead" Bed (Royaumont): *Birkenhead Tramway's Collection, in July (£18 6s. 7d.), *Birkenhead W.S.S. (October Subscriptions) (£3 0s. 6d.) ...	21	7	1
*Collected by Miss Sinclair, from Inhabitants in Merchiston District, for "Merchiston" Bed (America Unit) ... ... (Already received, £2; total received for bed, £51 11s. 1d.)	49	11	1
*Per Miss Etta Shankland, Organiser, S.W.H., Greenock: "Greenock Flower and Vegetable Scheme" (£747 3s. 11d.), Weekly Sales during July, August, and September (£502 9s.), "Chrysanthemum Day" (£244 14s. 11d.) (£747 3s. 11d.), *Less expenses*, including "Chrysanthemum Day" (£26 5s. 3d.) (£720 18s. 8d.), To be earmarked as follows: Provide and Name Motor Ambulance to be inscribed—"Greenock No. III., Purchased by the Sale of Flowers and Vegetables" (£600), "Greenock Flower No. III." Bed (Greenock Ward), further year (£50), "Greenock Flower No. II." Bed (Salonica), further 6 months (£25), "Greenock Flower No. I." Bed (Royaumont), further 6 months (£25) (£700), (Balance kept in hand to purchase Games, &c., for Greenock Ward or other Hospitals, £20 18s. 8d.), "Greenock Penny-a-Week Fund," September collection, further for Greenock Beds (Serbians) (£23 15s. 11d.), *Workers, Messrs. Wm. Fulton & Sons, Paisley, per Jas. Guy, Esq. (8th donation) (£10), *Workmen, Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., Port-Glasgow (68th-71st donation), for upkeep of "Glen Shipbuilding Yard" Bed (Sallanches) (£4), *Messrs. Hally & Co., Auchterarder, Sale of Paper Tubes, for upkeep of "Hally & Co., Auchterarder" Bed (Sallanches) (£3 0s. 2d.), *Employees, Seedhill Finishing Co. Ltd., Paisley, per Richard Benson, Esq. (Serbians) (£1)	741	16	1
*Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S., per Miss M. C. Morrison, Hon. Treas. (October donations): *Part Proceeds of "Thistle" Souvenir Book (£134 15s.), *Part Proceeds of Sale by Symington Girls' Work Party, per Mrs. Lyle, for upkeep of 2 "Symington Girls'" Beds (£100), *Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Fyfe, for upkeep of "Hugh and Allan" Bed (£50), *Collection at Hampden Park Football Ground (£48 8s.), *Glasgow and West of Scotland Horticultural Society, per Hugh Mackie, Esq. (£25), *Kirkintilloch Flag Day, per Miss Calder (£24 3s. 3d.), Collection at Miss Vera Holme's Meeting at Bridge of Weir (£20), *Miss McOnie (£20), Collection at "Theatre Royal" (£19 15s. 11d.), *Mrs. Charles Ker (£10 10s.), James Ferguson, Esq. (£10 10s.), *Mrs. W. F. G. Anderson (£10 10s.), Collection taken at Miss Vera Holme's Meeting in Kirkcudbright (£10 5s.), *Miss Stephen (£10), *Staff and Pupils, Lenzie Academy, per Alexander Buchanan, Esq., M.A., towards upkeep of the "Lenzie Academy" Bed (£10), *Collection taken at "B.B. Cinerama" (£6 1s. 6d.), *Collection taken at Miss Vera Holme's Meeting in Rutherford U.F. Church (£6), Mrs. Davies (£5 5s.), *Mrs. Gregory (£5), *Mrs. and The Misses Anderson (£5), *Miss J. E. Forrest (£5), *Andrew Rowan, Esq. (£5), *Ayr W.S.S., per Mrs. Alexander (£4 11s. 6d.), *Mrs. James French (£2 2s.), *The Misses Mitchell (£2), *Paisley Fund: Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Reid (£1 5s.), Teachers and Scholars of Low Waters, South U.F. Church Sabbath School, Hamilton, per Miss Orr (£1 5s.), *Mrs. Drysdale (£1), *Mrs. Alexander (£1), Miss Riddell, for Serbia (£1), *Miss Montgomerie, Castle Douglas, for Serbia (11s.), *Miss Knox (10s.), *Miss Helen Roddie, per Miss Millar (10s.), *Miss Murray (10s.), *"Sisters" (5s.), *The Misses Watt (5s.), *Workmen's Scheme:* *Employees, Motherwell and Edinburgh Districts, Caledonian Railway, per D. Hathorn, Esq., and Mrs. Jackson (£63 15s. 8d.), *Employees, The Steel Company of Scotland, Hillside Works, per J. Tennant, Esq. (£25 5s. 4d.), *Employers and Employees, Messrs. John & James White, Ruthergien (£19), *Employees, Messrs. Wm. Simons & Co. Ltd. (£12), *Employees, Messrs. Babcock & Wilson Ltd. (£10), *Employees, Messrs. Gryfe Tannery, Bridge of Weir (£10), *Messrs. David Sandeman & Co. (£5), *Messrs. J. & D. Hamilton Ltd. (£5), *Staff and Employees, Trongate Yard and Fitzroy Works, Messrs. P. & W. MacLellan Ltd. (£3 12s. 7d.), *Employees, Messrs. Wm. Martin, Sons & Co., Coatbridge (£2 2s.), *Employees, Messrs. Cassel Cyanide Co. Ltd. (£2), *Workers' Contributions, Kelvinhaugh Hemming Factory, per Miss B. Wilkie (£2), Messrs. Miller & Anderson, per Mr. Willock (£1), *Office Staff, Messrs. J. B. Wills (£1), *Messrs. Thomas Docherty & Co. (£1), *Girl Employees at Messrs. Cleland Dykes Factory, Strathavon, per Miss Orr (8s. 4d.)	721	0	0
	£352,845	9	10
Less amount earmarked Serbian Red Cross Society	5	0	0
	£352,840	9	10

* Denotes further donations.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Names of Beds.	*Donors.*
"Baberton" (Corsica, further 6 months)	"Baberton Golf Club," per Martin McCall, Sec.
"September" (Salonica, 1st 6 months)	Per Miss Williamson, Edinburgh.
"Haddington" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Haddington W.S.S., per Miss Paterson.
"Lamp of Lothian" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Haddington W.S.S., per Miss Paterson.
"Student's" (Royaumont, further 3 months)	Edinburgh University Students' Representative Council.
"Princes Street" Beds (further 6 months each)	Collected per Miss Latimer.
"St. Margaret's School" (2 beds) (Royaumont, further 6 months) ...	Dundee W.S.S., per Miss MacIntyre, Hon. Treas.
"Birkenhead" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Per Miss M. E. Dalby, Hon. Treas., Birkenhead W.S.S.
"America Unit, further 1 year)	Collected by Miss Sinclair, Edinburgh.
"Greenock Flower, No. III." (Greenock Ward, Sallanches, further 1 year) ...	Per Miss Etta Shankland.
"Greenock Flower, No. II." (Salonica, further 6 months)	Per Miss Etta Shankland.
"Greenock Flower, No. I." (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Per Miss Etta Shankland.
"Symington Girls'" (2 beds) (Royaumont, further 1 year each)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.
"Hugh and Allan" (Salonica, further 1 year)	Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS, LONDON UNITS.

The latest letters from the Elsie Inglis Unit report that the ambulance column was keeping up with the advancing armies, and meeting with enthusiastic reception from the people of the towns through which they passed. The dust which made driving so difficult had given place to deep mud, and the primitive method of pushing seemed often to be the only method of progress.

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S).

NOVEMBER 15.

Pulham—Town Hall—Speakers: Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Miss Wickham—Subject: "Responsibility of the Vote" 7.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 17

Birmingham—West Bromwich Labour Church—Speaker: Mrs. Ring 6.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 18.

Birmingham—Erdington Liberal Association—Speaker: Mrs. Ring 8 p.m.

Birmingham—University—Speaker: Principal Alfred Hayes 5.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 20.

Bristol—Thornbury—Speaker: Mrs. Cross—Subject: "The New Voting Power of Women and its Responsibility" 2.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 22.

Bristol — Fortts Rooms — Chair: Mrs. Cyril Walker—Speaker: Mrs. Baker, of the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child 6 p.m.

NOVEMBER 13-23.

Central Hall, Westminster — "The Englishwoman" Exhibition of Arts and Handicrafts Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. First day 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

NOVEMBER 18.

Charing Cross—Restaurant, 43, Chandos Street—Luncheon to meet the Rt. Hon. Sir W. H. Dickinson, M.P. — Subject: "Nationality of Married Women"—Chairman: Miss Crystal Macmillan—Tickets can be obtained from Hon. Treasurer, B.D.W.C.U., 39, Meadway Court, N.W., price 2s. 6d. each, application should be made not later than November 11th 12.45 to 2.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 30.

Westminster—25, Tothill Street—Public Conference on "International Labour Legislation"—Chairman: Mr. G. H. Stuart-Bowning—Speakers: M. Camille Huysmans, Miss Sophie Sanger, Mr. Fred Bramley 3 p.m.

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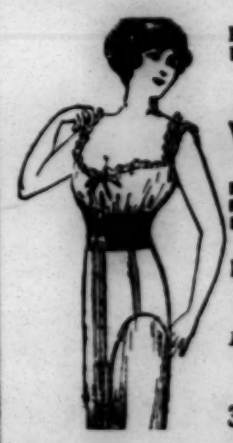
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Coming Events.

NOVEMBER 21.

Central Hall (large), **Westminster**—NATIONAL POLITICAL LEAGUE—Public Meeting on "Demobilization of Women and Women's Economic Conditions"—Admission Free by Ticket 4.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 28.

Caxton Hall, Westminster—Annual Meeting—Penal Reform League — Speaker: Miss Shaw (Warden Women's Training Colony)—Chairman: The Duchess of Marlborough—Hon. Sec. will read Annual Report and make a statement—Business Meeting 7 p.m. 7.30 p.m.

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